

News From
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**NEWPORT FIRE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES
\$78,188 FIREFIGHTERS GRANT**

Chafee's Newport Office Pleased City Chosen for Homeland Security Assistance

NEWPORT, RI – The U.S. Department of Homeland Security today announced that the City of Newport has been awarded \$78,188 through its 2003 Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program. This program seeks to support departments by providing them the tools and resources necessary to protect the health and safety of the public and their firefighting personnel.

"I am pleased that the City of Newport is among the first of 219 communities to receive this vitally important federal funding," said Chafee. "The Bush Administration recognizes the value of supporting our local departments in their efforts to maintain homeland security within our neighborhoods."

For the 2003 program, Congress appropriated \$750 million in direct assistance to support our nation's firefighters and the services they deliver. The Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate and the Federal Emergency Management Agency received nearly 20,000 grant applications. The announcement today represents the first round of funding totaling \$13.2 million. The one-year grants will assist with the purchase of equipment, and support emergency medical services programs, fire prevention and firefighter health and safety programs.

For more information about the 2003 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, visit <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/>.

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